Galatians 4:1-5 “God’s Christmas Preparation” Harlan D. Betz

**1A. INTRODUCTION …** There are only 17 shopping days left till Christmas!

We prepare for Christmas in many ways.

**2A. INSTRUCTION …**  God prepared the world for the first Christmas:

**1B. *In the fullness of time.* Gal. 4:1-4**

1C. God prepared the world nationally … ((Dan. 1 & 7)

# 1D. Babylon

2D. Medo Persia

3D. Greece

4D. Rome

2C. God prepared the world morally

1D. I’d make it if I didn’t have a sinful nature:

2D. I’d make it if I could just follow my conscience:

3D. I’d make it if I could just follow my conscience:

4D. I’d make it if I was governed by good men:

5D. I’d make it if I had a special place to worship:

6D. I’d make it if the guidelines were clearly spelled out:

7D. I’d only make it by the grace of God!

3C. God prepared the world prophetically. The messiah will be:

1D. Born of a woman — Gen. 3:15

2D. Through Abraham — Gen. 12:12; 15:5

4D. Through Isaac — Gen. 21:12

5D. Through Jacob — Gen. 26:4

6D. Tribe of Judah — Gen. 49:10

7D. Family of David — 2 Sam. 7:12

8D. Born in city of Bethlehem — Micah 5:2

9D. Born of a virgin — Isa. 7:14

4C. God prepared the world individually

1D. John the Baptist — the personal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2D. Joseph of David — The legal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3D. Mary the Virgin — The blessed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4D. Caesar Augustus — The census \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5D. Magi from the East — The King \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

6D. Shepherds from the fields — The news \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7D. The Heavenly Host — The God \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2B. *God sent forth His Son.* Gal 4:4**

1C. He was sent by the Father. This emphasizes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

2C. He was born of a woman. This emphasizes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

3C. He was born under the Law. This emphasizes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

**3B. *To redeem those who were under the law.* Gal 4:5.** Why did God send His Son? 1C. That He might \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ us!

2C. That God might \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ us!

3C. How is that accomplished? Christ died for us (Gal. 3:13).

**3A. IMPLICATIONS …** God’s Christmas preparation was fantastic:

1. God’s timing in history.

2. God’s timing in my life.

3. God’s timing in your life.